

**VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of March 13, 2007**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Richard Suitor, Trustees Samantha Baraw, Libby Hambleton, Thomas McCarney (absent), and Jim Wilson. Also present were Village Manager Nanci Allard, Larry Drown, and Kathleen Lott (*Northfield News & Transcript*).

Chair Suitor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Scheduled):**

- a. **Larry Drown: Distribution Line Replacement on Old Freight Yard.** Chair Suitor provided a summary of his understanding of Mr. Drown's request: Mr. Drown wants replacement of the wires that were previously in existence. Mr. Drown stated that he owns property: the Berno-Dupere sawmill lots. Asked Starr LeCompte from GMP to come to property and she examined poles 1 to 7. Mr. Drown states that he "solved" the problem of easement rights today. He is in the process of having this documented and put on maps. Mr. Drown argues that this is not a new installation but rather the power was there previously. He stated the service has not changed, but the wires were changed. The wires that were taken down were approved by Manager Gadbois in 1986. Mr. Drown has been to the PSB and has made it clear that he's not asking for a new installation. He states he's not asking for anything special or new. He also is asking that the work on this matter [discussions and issues] be done in writing. Mr. Drown wants the Trustees to work out the easement rights on poles 1 to 7. Mr. Drown stated again that he has all the work done on the easement. He's asking that the Board make a motion to have the lines reinstalled there. Mr. Drown also offered his assistance to the Manager in gaining the easements.

III. **ACTION ITEMS**

a. **Approval of Minutes**

1. **February 27, 2007 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

b. **Approval of Bills**

1. **Warrant #18-07.** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to approve Warrant #18-07 in the amount of 324,983.91. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

- c. **Northfield Electric Department Bill Back Agreement.** This item was discussed at a previous meeting. This matter was presented to the State by the Legislature. The project is more expensive than was allotted by the Legislature. This Board previously agreed to pay its "share" and capped their amount (not to exceed \$3200). The State received feedback and has reworked their numbers and the project costs were dropped. Northfield was asked to pay the suggested amount of \$1483. Chair Suitor requests that the cap be re-evaluated. Motion by Trustee Hambleton, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to reconsider the previous resolution and amend the cap to \$1600. **Motion passed 4-0-0.** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to authorize the Manager to sign the amended resolution. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

- d. **Tentative Village Budget Meeting Schedule.** A tentative budget meeting schedule was in the packets and the budget booklet will be distributed this Friday (03/16/07).

IV. REPORTS

a. Village Manager

1. There was question over whether the memo regarding grandfathered benefits for employees was distributed to the Board or not. Copies will be sent to the Board for the next meeting.
2. We are looking at scheduling a joint board meeting with the Selectboard in early or mid-April.

b. Committee Reports

1. **Committee Appointments.** The Selectboard made some new appointments to the committees last night at their organizational meeting.
2. **Merger Committee.** The committee will hold a meeting next Monday night (03/19/07) and the public is encouraged to attend.

c. Miscellaneous

1. **Water Project update:** This project is in the works; there was a display at Town Meeting. The USDA grant application also is in the works.
2. **Efficiency Vermont Project update.** A meeting was held last week and there also was an event sponsored by all three local hardware stores. There is a class on Saturday, March 31, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon for the do-it-yourself efficiency evaluation. There are professional efficiency evaluations.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Unscheduled): None.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Hambleton, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to go into executive session to discuss legal matters. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 7:39 p.m.

Without objection, the Board came out of executive session at 7:51 p.m. No action was taken.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, the Board adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular meeting.